

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3913  
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2014  
OVERSEAS IGNOU CENTRES  
Ahmed Shri Sultan

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of study centres of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) operating in overseas country-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has proposed to close these centres;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) if not, whether the above centres of IGNOU are not admitting students during current year and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): As informed by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), the University has approved 29 Overseas Study Centres (OSCs) abroad. The country-wise study centres are: United Arab Emirates (7), Qatar (1), Kuwait (2), Oman (1), Bahrain (1), Saudi Arabia (5), Mauritius (1), Ethiopia (1), Ivory Cost (1), Papua New Guinea (2), Kenya (1), Singapore (1), Nepal (2), Sri Lanka (2), Afghanistan (1).

(b) to (d): IGNOU has informed, upon their internal review, it came to the notice of the University that these Study Centres were functioning without the prior approval of the Visitor as envisaged in the Act of the University. The University has, accordingly kept in abeyance all the operations of Overseas Study Centres (OSCs) in these countries w.e.f. 01/01/2014 but not closed so far. However, interests of the existing students have been protected by allowing their re-registration, conducting term-end examination in June 2014 and admitting students who have passed Bachelor's Preparatory Programme (BPP) to the Bachelor's Degree Programme (BDP) during July 2014 admission session.

Once a comprehensive proposal for Overseas Study Centres is received from IGNOU, the Ministry shall initiate action for Visitor's approval.